

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 212458

FOR SIMONS FROM SCHMIDT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. CARTER-CEAUSESCU MESSAGE - YOU WILL RECEIVE SOON BY SEPTTEL INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE ORAL PRESENTATION TO GOR ON MIDDLE EAST, US-PRC, AND US-ROMANIAN RELATIONS. ORIGINALLY EUR/EE HAD HOPED TO SEND A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT TO CEAUSESCU AS AN EFFECTIVE WAY AT THIS TIME TO REAFFIRM HIGH-LEVEL INTEREST IN US-ROMANIAN RELATIONS. BUT AFTER PROPOSED LETTER WAS SENT TO NSC FOR CLEARANCE, DR. BRZEZINSKI DECIDED THAT THERE WOULD BE AN ORAL PRESENTATION ON THE SAME SUBJECTS RATHER THAN A LETTER. IN SPITE OF OUR EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN VOICED TO BRZEZINSKI THROUGH VEST ON AUGUST 18, THAT THIS APPROACH WOULD NOT BE AS EFFECTIVE, BRZEZINSKI HELD FAST TO HIS DECISION PREDICATING IT ON: A) HIS OWN BELIEF THAT AN ORAL PRESENTATION WAS MORE EFFECTIVE; AND B) ON THE ABSENCE FROM TOWN OF THE PRESIDENT AND HIS (BRZE-
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ZINSKI'S) LACK OF AUTHORITY TO SEND OUT A PRESIDENTIAL LETTER WITHOUT PRIOR PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL. SINCE THE PRESIDENT IS ON EXTENDED VACATION IN THE WILDS OF IDAHO AND WYOMING (RAFTING) UNTIL EARLY SEPTEMBER, WE THOUGHT IT BEST TO PROCEED WITH THE ORAL PRESENTATION TO AVOID FURTHER DELAYS. CHRISTOPHER

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